

Influenza Sentinel Surveillance in Kansas

Since influenza is not a reportable disease in our state, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) participates in conducting influenza surveillance using sentinel sites. Sentinel surveillance allows KDHE to determine a *qualitative* picture of influenza in Kansas. The 6 public health regions in Kansas and other sources of information are used to determine the level of the state's influenza activity. KDHE's Bureau of Epidemiology and Disease Prevention monitors influenza-like illness in the state with the cooperation of sentinel sites. These health care providers report the number of patients seen with ***fever of $\geq 100^{\circ}\text{F}$ and cough and/or sore throat and absence of KNOWN cause other than influenza*** on a weekly basis. The sites also collect and submit viral cultures to the KDHE lab on a during flu season. These activities allow KDHE to determine when and where illness is occurring in the state. Influenza activity levels are reported as no activity, sporadic, local, regional, or widespread based on the definitions listed below. Other laboratories, local health departments, and private physicians around the state also participate in surveillance through the reporting of influenza activity. It is through these efforts of health care providers and laboratories in Kansas and all other states, that the CDC develops a national picture of influenza virus activity, the geographic distribution of influenza viruses, and the clinical impact of the circulating viruses.

Influenza Activity Levels

No Activity	Overall clinical activity remains low and there are no lab confirmed cases [†]
Sporadic	Isolated cases of lab confirmed influenza in the state; Influenza-Like-Illness* (ILI) activity is not increased. OR A lab confirmed outbreak in a single institution‡ in the state; ILI activity is not increased.
Local	Increased ILI within a single region** AND recent (within the past 3 weeks) laboratory evidence of influenza in that region. ILI activity in other regions is not increased. OR Two or more institutional outbreaks (ILI or lab confirmed) within a single region AND recent (within the past 3 weeks) lab confirmed influenza in that region. Other regions do not have increased ILI and virus activity is no greater than sporadic in those regions.
Regional (This level of activity does not apply for small states with 4 or fewer regions.)	Increased ILI in ≥ 2 but less than half of the regions AND recent (within the past 3 weeks) lab confirmed influenza in the affected regions. OR Institutional outbreaks (ILI or lab confirmed) in ≥ 2 and less than half of the regions AND recent lab confirmed influenza in the affected regions.
Widespread	Increased ILI and/or institutional outbreaks (ILI or lab confirmed) in at least half of the regions AND recent (within the past 3 weeks) lab confirmed influenza in the state.

For more information please see the following website -
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/flu/weeklychoice.htm>